GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2652
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2005
SURCHARGE ON ALL CENTRAL DIRECT TAXES
Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Pallani Shamy Shri K.C .

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is proposal to impose one per cent surcharge on all central direct taxes to fund its health care activities and run a National Health Insurance Scheme for the poor as reported in the Times of India dated November 22, 2005;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the National Health Insurance Scheme for the poor is likely to be introduced; and

(d) the names of the items subsidised through cess?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM)

(a) to (d): Yes, Sir. A proposal has been made to introduce a levy of two per cent as Health Cess on all taxes on the lines of Education Cess. However, the Government has not taken any decision in this regard.